

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following list of claims replaces all prior versions and lists of claims:

Claims 1-59 (Cancelled)

Claim 60 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in any of Figures 1, 3 or 4, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 353 nucleotides.

Claim 61 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in any of Figures 1, 3 or 4, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 586 nucleotides.

Claim 62 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in any of the viral cDNA inserts in a lamda gt-11 cDNA library deposited as ATCC No. 40394, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 353 nucleotides.

Claim 63 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in any of the viral cDNA inserts in a lamda gt-11 cDNA library deposited as ATCC No. 40394, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 586 nucleotides.

Claim 64 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 14, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 353

nucleotides.

Claim 65 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 14, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 586 nucleotides.

Claim 66 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 26, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 353 nucleotides.

Claim 67 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 26, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 586 nucleotides.

Claim 68 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figures 57, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 353 nucleotides.

Claim 69 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 57, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 586 nucleotides.

Claim 70 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 59 or the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 62 or the complement thereof, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 353 nucleotides.

Claim 71 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 59 or the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 62 or the complement thereof, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 586 nucleotides.

Claim 72 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 72 or the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 89 or the complement thereof, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 353 nucleotides.

Claim 73 (Currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence that is identical to a sequence of at least [[8]] 12 contiguous nucleotides shown in either strand of the nucleotide sequence in Figure 72 or the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 89 or the complement thereof, wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 586 nucleotides.

Claims 74-75 (Cancelled)

Claim 76 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any one of claims 60-73, wherein said contiguous sequence is at least 15 nucleotides.

Claim 77 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any one of claims 60-73, wherein said contiguous sequence is at least 20 nucleotides.

Claim 78 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 161 nucleotides.

Claims 79-80 (Cancelled)

Claim 81 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 76 wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 161 nucleotides.

Claim 82 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 77 wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 161 nucleotides.

Claim 83 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 108 nucleotides.

Claims 84-85 (Cancelled)

Claim 86 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 76 wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 108 nucleotides.

Claim 87 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 77 wherein said polynucleotide has a maximum length of 108 nucleotides

Claim 88 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claims 89-90 (Cancelled)

Claim 91 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 76 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claim 92 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 77 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claim 93 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 78 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claims 94-95 (Cancelled)

Claim 96 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 81 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claim 97 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 82 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claim 98 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 83 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claims 99-100 (Cancelled)

Claim 101 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 86 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claim 102 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 87 wherein said polynucleotide is single stranded.

Claim 103 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claims 104-105 (Cancelled)

Claim 106 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 76 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 107 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 77 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 108 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 78 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claims 109-110 (Cancelled)

Claim 111 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 81 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 112 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 82 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 113 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 83 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claims 114-115 (Cancelled)

Claim 116 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 86 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 117 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 87 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 118 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 88 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claims 119-120 (Cancelled)

Claim 121 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 91 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 122 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 92 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 123 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 93 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claims 124-125 (Cancelled)

Claim 126 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 96 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 127 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 97 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 128 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 98 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claims 129-130 (Cancelled)

Claim 131 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 101 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 132 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 102 wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.

Claim 133 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 134-135 (Cancelled)

Claim 136 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 76 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 137 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 77 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 138 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 78 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 139-140 (Cancelled)

Claim 141 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 81 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 142 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 82 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 143 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 83 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 144-145 (Cancelled)

Claim 146 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 86 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 147 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 87 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 148 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 88 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 149-150 (Cancelled)

Claim 151 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 91 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 152 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 92 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 153 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 93 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 154-155 (Cancelled)

Claim 156 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 96 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 157 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 97 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 158 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 98 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 159-160 (Cancelled)

Claim 161 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 101 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 162 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 102 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 163 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 103 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 164-165 (Cancelled)

Claim 166 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 106 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 167 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 107 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 168 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 108 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 169-170 (Cancelled)

Claim 171 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 111 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 172 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 112 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 173 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 113 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 174-175 (Cancelled)

Claim 176 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 116 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 177 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 117 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 178 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 118 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 179-180 (Cancelled)

Claim 181 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 121 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 182 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 122 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 183 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 123 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 184-185 (Cancelled)

Claim 186 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 126 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 187 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 127 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 188 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 128 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 189-190 (Cancelled)

Claim 191 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 131 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 192 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 132 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 193 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claims 194-195 (Cancelled)

Claim 196 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 76 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 197 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 77 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 198 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 78 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claims 199-200 (Cancelled)

Claim 201 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 81 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 202 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 82 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 203 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 83 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claims 204-205 (Cancelled)

Claim 206 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 86 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 207 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 87 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 208 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 88 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claims 209-210 (Cancelled)

Claim 211 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 91 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 212 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 92 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 213 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 93 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claims 214-215 (Cancelled)

Claim 216 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 96 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 217 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 97 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 218 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 98 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claims 219-220 (Cancelled)

Claim 221 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 101 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 222 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 102 wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.

Claim 223 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 193 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 224-225 (Cancelled)

Claim 226 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 196 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 227 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 197 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 228 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 198 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 229-230 (Cancelled)

Claim 231 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 201 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 232 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 202 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 233 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 203 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 234-235 (Cancelled)

Claim 236 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 206 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 237 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 207 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 238 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 208 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 239-240 (Cancelled)

Claim 241 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 211 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 242 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 212 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 243 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 213 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 244-245 (Cancelled)

Claim 246 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 216 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 247 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 217 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 248 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 218 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claims 249-250 (Cancelled)

Claim 251 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 221 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 252 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claims 253-254 (Cancelled)

Claim 255 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 76 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claim 256 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 77 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claim 257 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 78 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claims 258-259 (Cancelled)

Claim 260 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 81 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claim 261 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 82 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claim 262 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 83 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claims 263-264 (Cancelled)

Claim 265 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 86 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claim 266 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 87 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claim 267 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 222 wherein said polynucleotide is labeled.

Claim 268 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 252 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claims 269-270 (Cancelled)

Claim 271 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 255 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claim 272 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 256 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claim 273 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 257 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claims 274-275 (Cancelled)

Claim 276 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 260 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claim 277 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 261 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claim 278 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 262 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claims 279-280 (Cancelled)

Claim 281 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 265 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claim 282 (Previously Presented): An oligonucleotide according to claim 266 wherein said oligonucleotide is labeled.

Claim 283 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide according to claim 267 wherein said polynucleotide is an oligonucleotide.

Claim 284 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claims 285-286 (Cancelled)

Claim 287 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 76 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 288 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 77 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 289 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 78 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claims 290-291 (Cancelled)

Claim 292 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 81 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 293 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 82 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 294 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 83 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claims 295-296 (Cancelled)

Claim 297 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 86 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 298 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 87 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 299 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 88 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claims 300-301 (Cancelled)

Claim 302 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 91 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 303 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 92 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 304 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 93 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claims 305-306 (Cancelled)

Claim 307 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 96 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 308 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 97 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 309 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 98 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claims 310-311 (Cancelled)

Claim 312 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 101 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 313 (Previously Presented): A composition comprising the polynucleotide of claim 102 wherein said polynucleotide is substantially isolated.

Claim 314 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of any of claims 60-73 in a suitable package.

Claims 315-316 (Cancelled)

Claim 317 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 76 in a suitable package.

Claim 318 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 77 in a suitable package.

Claim 319 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 78 in a suitable package.

Claims 320-321 (Cancelled)

Claim 322 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 81 in a suitable package.

Claim 323 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 82 in a suitable package.

Claim 324 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 83 in a suitable package.

Claims 325-326 (Cancelled)

Claim 327 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 86 in a suitable package.

Claim 328 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 87 in a suitable package.

Claim 329 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 88 in a suitable package.

Claims 330-331 (Cancelled)

Claim 332 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 113 in a suitable package.

Claim 333 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 117 in a suitable package.

Claim 334 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 133 in a suitable package.

Claim 335 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 193 in a suitable package.

Claim 336 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 223 in a suitable package.

Claim 337 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 252 in a suitable package.

Claim 338 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 284 in a suitable package.

Claim 339 (Previously Presented): A kit for analyzing samples for the presence of HCV comprising at least one polynucleotide of claim 268 in a suitable package.

Claim 340 (Previously Presented): A polynucleotide of any of claims 60-73 wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having a sequence comprising at least 10 contiguous amino acids from an HCV1 polyprotein.

Claim 341 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that contain a detectable polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides fully complementary to either strand of Figure 3.

Claim 342 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that contain a detectable polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides fully complementary to either strand of Figure 62A.

Claim 343 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that contain a detectable polynucleotide comprising a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides fully complementary to either strand of Figure 89.

Claim 344 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that comprise a polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from the genome of a hepatitis C virus genome or the complement thereof.

Claim 345 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that comprise a polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from either strand of at least one of the HCV cDNA inserts in a lambda gt-11 cDNA library deposited as ATCC No. 40394.

Claim 346 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that comprise a polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides found in either strand of Figure 89.

Claim 347 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that comprise a polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides found in either strand of Figure 14.

Claim 348 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that comprise a polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from either strand of Figure 58.

Claim 349 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 344-348 wherein said selected samples comprise said polynucleotide and said stringent conditions permit the formation of a stable hybrid duplex between said polynucleotide and said contiguous sequence and do not permit the formation of a stable duplex between said contiguous sequence and the genomes of Hepatitis B or Hepatitis A viruses.

Claim 350 (Canceled)

Claim 351 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 349 wherein said polynucleotide is detectable in a PCR assay.

Claim 352 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 349 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 353 (Canceled)

Claim 354 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 351 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 355 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 349 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 356 (Cancelled)

Claim 357 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 351 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 358 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 349 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 359 (Cancelled)

Claim 360 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 351 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 361 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 352 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 362 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 355 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 363 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 352 further comprising preparing polyclonal antibodies with selected biological samples.

Claim 364 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that contain a detectable polynucleotide comprising a sequence that is fully complementary to a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from the genome of a hepatitis C virus genome or the complement thereof.

Claim 365 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting biological samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples that contain a detectable polynucleotide comprising a sequence that is fully complementary to a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from either strand of at least one of the HCV cDNA inserts in a lambda gt- 11 cDNA library deposited as A TCC No. 40394.

Claim 366 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 352 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 367 (Cancelled)

Claim 368 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 354 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 369 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 355 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 370 (Cancelled)

Claim 371 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 357 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 372 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 358 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 373 (Cancelled)

Claim 374 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 360 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 375 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples which comprise a first polynucleotide that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a second polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from the genome of a hepatitis C virus genome or the complement thereof.

Claim 376 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples which do not comprise a first polynucleotide that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a second polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from the genome of a hepatitis C virus genome or the complement thereof.

Claim 377 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples which comprise a first polynucleotide that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a second polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from either strand of at least one of the HCV cDNA inserts in a lambda gt-11 cDNA library deposited as A TCC No. 40394.

Claim 378 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples which do not comprise a first polynucleotide that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a second polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides from either strand of at least one of the HCV cDNA inserts in a lambda gt-11 cDNA library deposited as ATCC No. 40394.

Claim 379 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples which comprise a first polynucleotide that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a second polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides found in Figure 89, or the complement thereof.

Claim 380 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples which do not comprise a first polynucleotide that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a second polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides found in Figure 89, or the complement thereof.

Claim 381 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples which comprise a first polynucleotide that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a second polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides found in either strand of Figure 58.

Claim 382 (Previously Presented): A method of selecting samples from a supply of human biological samples comprising selecting from said supply those samples which do not comprise a first polynucleotide that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a second polynucleotide that comprises a contiguous sequence of at least 15 nucleotides found in either stand of Figure 58.

Claim 383 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 375, 377, 379, 381 wherein said selected samples comprise said first polynucleotide and said stringent conditions permit the formation of a stable hybrid duplex between said first polynucleotide and said contiguous sequence of nucleotides and do not permit the formation of a stable duplex between said contiguous sequence and the genomes of Hepatitis B or Hepatitis A viruses.

Claim 384 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 376, 378, 380, 382 wherein said selected samples do not comprise said first polynucleotide and said stringent conditions permit the formation of a stable hybrid duplex between said first polynucleotide and said contiguous sequence and do not permit the formation of a stable duplex between said contiguous sequence and the genomes of Hepatitis B or Hepatitis A viruses.

Claim 385 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 383, wherein said stringent conditions include using 50% (w/v) formamide and washing in 5xSSC, 0.1 % SDS at 55 DC.

Claim 386 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 384, wherein said stringent conditions include using 50% (w/v) formamide and washing in 5xSSC, 0.1 % SDS at 55 DC.

Claim 387 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 383 wherein said first polynucleotide is detectable in a PCR assay.

Claim 388 (Previously Presented): A method according to 385, wherein said first polynucleotide is detectable in a PCR assay.

Claim 389 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 384 wherein said first polynucleotide is not detectable in a PCR assay.

Claim 390 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 386 wherein said first polynucleotide is not detectable in a PCR assay.

Claim 391 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 375-382 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 392 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 383 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 393 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 384 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 394 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 385 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 395 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 386 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 396 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 387 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 397 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 388 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 398 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 389 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 399 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 390 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 400 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 375-382 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 401 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 383 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 402 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 384 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 403 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 385 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 404 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 386 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 405 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 387 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 406 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 388 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 407 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 389 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 408 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 390 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 409 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 375-382 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 410 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 383 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 411 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 384 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 412 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 385 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 413 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 386 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 414 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 387 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 415 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 388 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 416 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 389 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 417 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 390 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 418 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 375, 377, 379 or 381 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 419 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 383 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 420 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 385 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 421 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 387 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 422 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 388 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 423 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 376, 378, 380 or 382 further comprising employing biological samples that are selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 424 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 384 further comprising employing biological samples that are selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 425 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 386 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 426 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 389 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 427 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 390 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 428 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 376, 378, 380 or 382 wherein said selected samples are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 429 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 384 wherein said selected samples are supply sample for preparation of blood products.

Claim 430 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 386 wherein said selected samples are supply sample for preparation of blood products.

Claim 431 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 389 wherein said selected samples are supply sample for preparation of blood products.

Claim 432 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 390 wherein said selected samples are supply sample for preparation of blood products.

Claim 433 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 375, 377, 379 or 381 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 434 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 383 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 435 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 385 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 436 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 387 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 437 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 388 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 438 (Previously Presented): A method according to any of claims 341-348, 364 or 365 wherein said polynucleotide is detectable in a PCR assay.

Claim 439 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 438 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 440 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 438 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 441 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 438 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 442 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 439 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 443 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 440 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 444 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 441 wherein the selecting is to identify an HCV positive sample for removal from the supply.

Claim 445 (Previously Presented): A method according to claims 344-348, wherein said stringent conditions include using 50% (w/v) formamide and washing in 5xSSC, 0.1 % SDS at 55 DC.

Claim 446 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 349 wherein said stringent conditions include using 50% (w/v) formamide and washing in 5xSSC, 0.1 % SDS at 55 DC.

Claim 447 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 445 wherein said polynucleotide is detectable in a PCR assay.

Claim 448 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 446 wherein said polynucleotide is detectable in a PCR assay.

Claim 449 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 445 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 450 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 446 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 451 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 445 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 452 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 446 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 453 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 445 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 454 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 446 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 455 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 447 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 456 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 448 wherein said biological samples are blood.

Claim 457 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 447 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 458 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 448 wherein said biological samples are sera.

Claim 459 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 447 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 460 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 448 wherein said biological samples are plasma.

Claim 461 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 445 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 462 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 446 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 463 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 447 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 464 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 448 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.

Claim 465 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 445 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 466 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 446 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 467 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 447 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 468 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 448 wherein said samples that are not selected are supply samples for preparation of blood products.

Claim 469 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 358 further comprising employing biological samples that are not selected for a preparation of blood-related products.